

The Killers of
Grace

WEEKLY MESSAGE |
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G R A C E

The *Killers of* Grace

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Grace is available to all who dwell in the presence of God and it flows in the direction of those willing to pay the price. This does not imply that Grace can be bought; for it is unmerited all of the time. It means Paying the price of Grace and not for Grace. The price in this context refers to the factors which makes Grace effective in our lives. In other words, ' the killers of Grace' that needs to be uprooted to ensure Grace is not frustrated.

The first killer is a **lack of self Awareness**. This occurs when a person does not understand the limits of their capability and capacity as an human being. It is very helpful for one to know what one is capable of and be comfortable with playing to one's strength. In the same way, no one should be ashamed of his or her human limitation for we all have one or two , if not more ! It is however unfortunately common to come across people who are not this self aware and or are not happy with being who they are. This is due either to ignorance through naivety and or self deception.



How does a lack of self awareness kill Grace?

Without the recognition of one's limitations, we cannot recognize our need. The fact is that no human is completely independent, we are all created to be co-dependent. Nothing can be further from the truth, than for any one to claim to be self made. It is equally if not more erroneous for any one to think he/she can do any thing meaningful with out the Almighty God. Some even believe that all their human needs can be met by some human intervention. This is simply untrue.

While I do agree that God would always intervene through Man, it does not take away the fact that God is behind it all. The best of man can be self centered and or ill willed, it is the hand of God upon a man which makes him or her do the right thing when required. This level of self awareness is required for one to reach out to lay hold on Grace, otherwise Grace remains available but untapped.

Another killer of Grace; related to self awareness but distinct from it, is the mindset with respect to Labour and delayed gratification. There are two common extremes here, both killers of Grace:

“All of my success in life is commensurate to the level of my labor and delayed gratification”. This leads to people always laboring and never able to come to rest. In my opinion, this is a killer for when Grace appears with superior help, we are unable to reach out to take it. Let me quickly clarify my point: I believe there is a price of Grace and that includes some level of labor, however for those under Grace, the intensity and effectiveness of labor can be improved significantly without us leading to an outcome much higher or faster than the input. One such manifestation of Grace is favor. Favor is usually merited, but it can also be unmerited due to circumstances orchestrated by Grace.



The other extreme is where one thinks that no labor or delayed gratification is required for one to succeed as long as Grace is at work. This is also untrue. Many who hold this view have lived miserable lives waiting in vain for Grace to flow where its passage has been inadvertently blocked by them. Man, dwelling in the presence of God and under Grace; has to be at work, for Grace to be at work in them.



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